From: crelfor@sears.com@inetgw

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/24/02 11:32am

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I think the settlement you people in the government have come up with is a joke. Anyone, even an average computer user, can see that this will in no way deter Microsoft from continuing their monopolist practices. If you do not crack down on them now, they will feel free to continue to produce buggy, insecure bloatware at will without fear of competition. I personally agree with the holdout states that Microsoft should make a version of windows that does not contain a browser, media player or word processor and leave those choices up to the individual consumer. Many of us are smart enough to get around Microsoft's pigeonholing us on applications but it is not always easy. By them consistently adding more and more "functionality" to their operating system, it is allowing them to little by little squeeze out other utility companies.

The new XP version comes with a built in browser, media player, scanner and digital camera, and printer drivers that are normally supplied by other companies. This is allowing MS to leverage these other companies out because they are creating the operating system these drivers are installed into. I for one think it is high time the government stepped in and really did something for the PEOPLE that it is supposed to represent instead of big business.

Thank You for your time

Carl Relford Sears Computer Technician Tucson, Arizona